



LARC



Volume 49, Number 4

April 2009

AARA 2009 Hamfest Report

The 2009 AARA Hamfest is now history. We had our largest Friday attendance for the crawfish and Fais Do Do ever. The Rayne High School Scholarship Fund Group sold out of foods and we had all crawfish dinners picked up with a small quantity of crawfish remaining for the next club meeting. Thanks to the folks who assisted in cleaning the leftover crawfish for the club.



The AARA 2009 Hamfest was in memory of John Martin SK, W5SE (KA5BSE), donations were collected for a memorial fund and presented to John's widow Maureena KB5SMX at our March 19th meeting. Thanks for the donations.

Total attendance was 503, compared to 379 and 372 in 2008 and 2007 respectively. We probably would have had a larger attendance if not for Houston's hamfest the weekend before and the rains that plague us during our weekend. The attendance by the Family Motor Coach Association ARS with their 20+ motor homes gave us our largest attendance of campers. Parking as last year was problem and we intend to fix that next year. Parking was the biggest complaint we received, ask Nick KE5MWX and Dags KE5CGN.

Our profit level equaled last year, thanks to the large raffle ticket sales. A breakdown of the revenue and expense categories will be given at the next meeting. We had several unsold tables this year, can't explain that. Maybe hams have less stuff to sell. Hi!

Dave Pierce N5OB donated a huge amount of old miscellaneous parts to the AARA table with profits going to the club. The club collected a nice sum for all those spare parts. Thanks to Calvin Begnaud KD5JCT for handling the transactions.

Special thanks always to Rick N5RLM and Joy N5YCS who manages the table sales, door prizes and revenues and expenses.

I would like to thank the many, many other member hams that assisted me, but I am sure I would miss someone. **So, thanks to all the club members that helped me and stayed with me to the end of the hamfest, I could not have done it all without your help.**

Roland NA5Q
2009 Hamfest Chairperson

President's Message

By John Cuniff W4JHC

The Importance of Keeping a Log

The FCC used to require all hams to record their transmissions in a log book.

Hams are no longer are required to keep a log, but as you will see, it's a good idea.

When I was young, a man came to our door in Fairfield Highlands, AL and rang the doorbell. My Mom looked out and said something to my Dad about a man at the door.

Dad answered the door and the guy who seemed agitated asked him, "Are you Jack Cuniff?"

Dad (W4HVH, now SK) said "yes"! The man introduced himself and then proceeded to accuse my Dad of having an affair with his wife! He said he was in the Marine Corps and had recently been overseas. He had just gotten home on leave and had discovered our phone number and Dad's name in a bunch of notes his wife had kept. He concluded that his wife was cheating on him while he was away serving the country. He didn't like that. Dad basically told the guy, "I don't know what you're talking about and I'm not having an affair with your wife!" The guy was persistent and Dad was getting agitated.

(continued on page 2 column 2)

AARA HAMFEST 2009 GRAND PRIZE WINNERS

PRIZE:	RADIO:	TICKET #:	NAME & CALL:	QTH:
1 st	Icom 718	61136	Joy Breaux N5YCS	Duson, LA
2 nd	Icom 208H	57045	Brad Fay WM5X	Leesville, LA
3 rd	Icom V8000	60313	Kevin Thomas W5KGT	Calhoun, LA
4 th	Icom V8 Sport	50902	Dags Whittemore KE5CGN	Baton Rouge, LA

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday April 2nd @ 7:00 PM
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Twin City Hamfest-West Monroe April 25
ARCOS Swapmeet-Shreveport May 2
Piney Hills Swapfest-Ruston May 9

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA
Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2009-2010

President - John Cuniff W4JHC
jhcuniff@cox.net

Vice Pres. & Newsletter Editor -

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

Secretary - Paul Scallan K5VSH

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

Charlie Morrison - KI5XP

Sandy LeBlanc - KE5KJF

Nick Romero - KE5MWX

Public Information Officer

Dagmar Whittemore -KE5CGN

QSL Manager

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

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P. O. Box 51174

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each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

Now Dad was an ex Navy man and I'm told they didn't get along too well with Marines. My Dad was a big man, about 6' 2" and weighed well over 200 lbs. and had been an offensive lineman on his high school football team. He wasn't afraid of anyone - except maybe an irate Marine!

Anyway, they both calmed down and Dad asked him what his wife's name was. The guy told him and then it clicked. Dad excused himself and went to fetch his log book. After finding the proper entry, he inquired of the Marine: "Do you remember (on such and such a date) a conversation with your wife via ham radio? I made a contact with a ham in Okinawa and we set up a phone patch to the Marine base there. We were the ones that helped you and your wife speak. The propagation was spotty and it took several tries to make the contact. That is why you see my name and number so often in your wife's notes!"

At that point, the Marine's face turned a beet red. He apologized profusely, begged my Dad to forgive him and thanked him over and over. Dad told him that he understood and that if he could ever help out again, he'd be glad to....

Conflict resolved peacefully thanks to the log book!!!

-John, W4JHC

AARA GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 2, 2009

7:00 PM

RED CROSS BUILDING

101 N. Pat Street

Scott, Louisiana

HAMFEST VE TEST RESULTS

The following persons tested at the 2009 AARA Hamfest held in Rayne, LA on March 14, 2009 and received the following calls. Congratulations for a job well done.

Donna M. Meche of Sulphur, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZI.

Tristian Zenon of Lafayette, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZH.

Kevin C. Thompson of Lafayette, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZG.

Jason B. Janise of Ville Platte, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZF.

Daniel R. Baham of Eunice, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZE.

Thomas C. Parsons of Sulphur, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZC.

Nickolas L. Laura of Lafayette, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZD.

Benjamin P. Anding of Eunice, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZJ.

Vincent J. Fontenot of Washington, LA. passed Technician KE5ZZK.

Charles S. Davis of Carencro, LA. passed technician KE5ZZM, then he upgraded to General.

Chad J. Connolly KE5YXE of Iota, LA. upgraded to General.

Christopher W. Eason KE5ZQI upgraded to General and received new call KE5ZZL

Todd L. Guillory KE5YQJ of Ville Platt, LA. upgraded to General

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN of Baton Rouge, LA. upgraded to General.

The VE's for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH, Greg Dolan K5LFT, Lester J. Keller, KB5WUFU, Terry M. Partigianoni W5TMP. Archibald G. Hill W5AG, Geln Breaux KD5NVC, Greg Lavigne AD5HA, Robert DeHart AD5IR, and Earl Morrow W5ELM.

73

Danny K5ARH

Vice President's Message

by Herman Campbell KN5GRK

I have been more or less appointed to be our club vice president for the year 2009-2010. I will try to do my best to fill this position. We have two new first time officers that took their positions at the March 19th meeting. They are President John Cunniff W4JHC and Secretary Paul Scallan K5VSH. They did really well, just a little trouble getting familiar with call signs and names.

Well it seems that we have had a fairly successful hamfest this year which is our biggest event and one means of income for the club. I am glad it is over and we can move on to other things. I would like to thank all the guys that helped me move all my "junk" from my QTH to the hamfest table and the "leftovers" back to my QTH.

Dags Whittemore KE5CGN made a nice gesture. She was the winner of the 4th Grand Prize which was a Icom V8 Sport HT at this hamfest and one last year. Not needing another HT, she decided to donate it to a new Technician that tested at the hamfest. A young man in his early teens named Tristan Zenon KE5ZZH, was presented the radio at the March 19th meeting by our President John W4JHC.



Each year the AARA has a drawing for a 2 meter HT. To be eligible to win, you must be a club member and attend the AARA General Meeting. You get one chance for each meeting you attend. The lucky name was drawn by Maureena Martin KB5SMX. The lucky winner for attending the meetings last year is Rick Breaux N5LRM. He received a Icom V8 Sport HT.



Our AARA Monday Night Net on the 146.82 repeater at 7:00 pm is averaging about 18 check-ins per Monday. This might be due to a little ongoing contest to boost participation. The person with the most check-ins during the year 2009 will receive a ARRL Amateur Radio Handbook (a nice prize). In case of a tie, a tie breaker drawing will be held.

Maureena Martin KB5SMX is looking for someone to help price and help dispose of her late husband John W5SE's equipment and parts. If you are interested in helping her out, please contact her.

I encourage all amateur radio operators to get involved in some way or other with the club. Do a presentation, write a article for the newsletter, call a net, get involved in events, there are numerous ways you can be an asset to our hobby.

**HELP KEEP AMATEUR RADIO
ALIVE
IN
ACADIANA**

NORTHEAST LOUISIANA REGIONAL

Ham RadioFest

Monroe, Louisiana
ARRL Louisiana State
Convention

Date: April 25th, 2009

Time: Saturday 8:00 AM til

Place: Barak Shrine Temple
6620 Frontage Road
Monroe, LA

Admission: \$5.00 per person plus
you receive 1 chance at the Grand
Prizes and door prizes.

Tickets: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00
Grand Prizes: To be announced.

Forums:

10:00 AM - TBA

11:00 AM - ARRL/ARES/NTS

Vendors:

The Sign Man of Baton Rouge
B2 Engineering of Jackson, MS
MCM Computers
Civic Enterprises - Custom An-
tenna Mounts

Talk-in: 146.85

Plenty of free parking but a limited
number of RV & trailer hookups at
\$16.00 per night.

Demos:

Hands on Radio Operating
D Star Demonstration

Additional information contact:

Paul Marsala, W5PEM

Hamfest Coordinator

318-381-1025

318-396-3043

E-mail: w5pem@comcast.net

Website:

<http://www.ares-nela.org/hamfest>

New Ham Classes

A new Technician Ham Class started on Thursday March 26th at the Children's Museum of Acadiana at 6:00 PM and will continue for the next three Thursdays. The first Thursday night had 12 students to sign up for the courses. Most from Paul Breaux Middle School. Nick K5QXJ is heading up this class at this time. Stay tuned!

W5EXI EchoLink Repeater

The W5EXI 147.040 pl 103.5 repeater located north of Duson, LA is requiring some maintenance on the DB-224 antenna which is at about 320 feet on the KRVS radio tower. The antenna has a 20-30 degree list due to Hurricane Gustav last year.



Dick Melcher WA6MDI and our Club President John Cuniff W4JHC made a trip out to the repeater site on Sunday 24th (John had never seen a repeater before) and was very impressed. They did find a few minor problems on their trip. First, a rat had chewed the wires going to the repeater cooling fan which put it out of commission along with the dead rat. It seemed that snakes like the repeater as they found a snake that had shed it's skin in the repeater.

After cleaning up the rat droppings and snake skins, Dick repaired the fan wires then they did a visual from the ground on the repeater antenna.

The next project is getting the antenna straight again. This is where you will need professional certified tower climbers to do the work.

One of our Club members is Wayne Morton W5YNE is a professional certified tower climber who would do it as a club favor, however he would need a certified rescue climber to stay on the ground just in case he is needed, there will be charge for his service.

Permission has been given from the KRVS to do the climb which will probably take place in a couple of weeks.

Some other expenses will be involved such as an additional bracket (this should prevent this from happening again) and probably some rope. There will also be a couple of club members Calvin Begnaud KD5JCT and John W4JHC and maybe some others to handle ropes on the ground.

This proposal is being put before the board at the next meeting on April 2nd.



4/06	ARNOLD	KE5JXC
4/12	BERT	W5ZR
4/13	KIRK	KE5UZZ
4/13	DAVID	N4ELM
4/18	ALBERT	KF5WP
5/05	HAROLD	KE5UPL
5/06	JOHN	W4JHC

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following first time new members to our club.

Nathan Stelly	KD5IQW
Joe Coleman	KA5RML
Harold Beckler	KE5UPL
Ray Hanks	KE5TPX
Al Andrew	N5WWS
Brenda Andrew	KB5RSH
Charles Fontenot	K5UA

April 2009 Special Events & Contests

April 4-12	W8HH – Commemorating the First Permanent Settlement in the Northwest Territory, April 7. Marietta, OH.
April 10 & 11	W1MGY – 97 th Anniversary of the Titanic voyage. Indian Orchard, MA.
April 11 & 12	WY7U – Commemorating explorer John Wesley Powell and the Colorado River. Green River, WY.
April 18	K5BS – 62 nd Anniversary of the April 1947 Texas City Disaster. Texas City, TX..
April 18	W5J – 48 th Annual Jackass Mail Run from Porterville to Springville. Porterville, CA.
April 24-26	K9P – USPSA Handgun Nationals PASA-Park. Barry, IL.
April 25	WA5PC – Transmitting from the only international boundary marker within the US. Carthage, TX.

Check out the April 2009 QST page 84 and 88 for a more detailed listing of Special Events and Contests.

Happy Easter April 12



MARCH 2009 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	5	62	2 Formal	80	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	5	99	0	186	KN5GRK Herman
Acadiana ARES Net	5	45	0	120	N5LRZ Ray
Vermillion Parish ARES Net	4	32	0	70	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* M 7 / G 6	0	37	KE5JKD Larry

Lagniappe . . . is something thrown in, gratis, for good measure. --Mark Twain.

40-METER BAN CHANGES

On 29 March 2009, stations in IARU Region 1 (Europe, Africa, and across northern Asia) will have Phone privileges up to 7.200 MHz. Currently those stations generally can not operate Phone above 7.100 MHz, which necessitates split frequency operation to work stations in the USofA. This expansion has been achieved due to cooperation by foreign broadcasting stations to move out of the 7.100-7.200 MHz spectrum.

(From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 27, No. 47)

IP Addresses Dropped

Several years ago Steve Mahler KF5VH had obtained the University of Louisiana at Lafayette IP addresses for the AX.25 Packet Gateway from James Dugal N5KNX (SK).

The Packet Gateway is no longer used and a request was made by Steve to discontinue the IP addresses if we did not have any plans for them.

At the last club meeting, it was brought before the membership and the majority agreed to discontinue this service.

Hurricane Season 2009 June 1 - November 30

Hurricane season will soon be upon us. Now is a good time start preparation on what you should have on hand and what to do if we get another hurricane.

One good place for training is to get involved with Field Day coming up in the last full weekend in June. Another is training in NTS Traffic handling in case you are called to help out when other means of communication is unavailable.

Tropical Cyclone Names (2009 Atlantic)

Ana	Henri	Odetta
Bill	Ida	Peter
Claudette	Joaquin	Rose
Danny	Kate	Sam
Erika	Larry	Teresa
Fred	Mindy	Victor
Grace	Nicholas	Wanda

Voice of WWV Becomes SK

The person behind the recorded voice of Time and Frequency Station WWV has passed away. Announcer Don Elliot Heald, of Atlanta, Georgia, who gave WWV its human touch, passed away on Thursday, February 19th.

Regards
Bryan KC9GRH

AARA Hamfest Foxhunt Winner

The winner of the Foxhunt during the recent AARA Hamfest is unknown at this time. All the information so far is as follows:

It seems that a ham radio father gave his handi-talkie to his daughter (non-ham) to participate in the Foxhunt. She tracked the fox down and you would never guess that little rascal was hiding.

If you have ever been to our hamfest or any other hamfest in Louisiana you might have seen one of the vendors with his exotic birds. One is a large parrot that is usually perched on a "T" perch made out of PVC pipe, well that is where the fox was hiding. The young lady was reluctant to get too close to the perch because it was covered with "bird dropping", however she did look without touching and identified the "Fox". She ended up collecting 100 door prize tickets which she split with her Dad.

Mississippi SET Plans

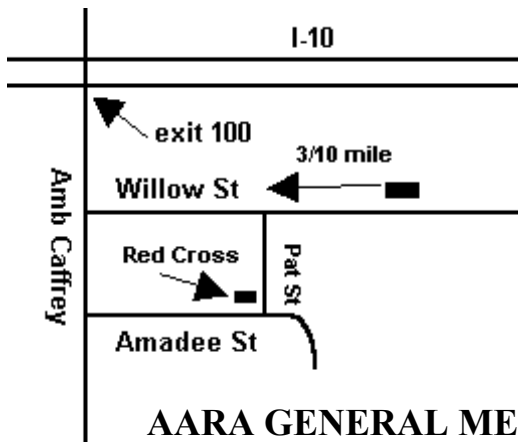
Mississippi will hold a Simulated Emergency Test on May 12th from 8:00AM to 5:00PM on 3862 KHz.

Louisiana is invited to participate in this hurricane simulation.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Mardi Gras - February 28

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a
Friend to be a HAM !

AARA GENERAL MEETING

Thursday April 2, 2009—7:00 PM

VE Testing at 6:00 PM - Refreshments - Door Prizes

Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA

Lunch Bunch

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE



Smothered Turkey with Eggplant Sauce

(submitted by Ray Arceneaux N5LRZ)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 medium eggplant | 1 tablespoon of olive oil |
| 1 1/2 lbs ground turkey | salt |
| 1 medium onion | pepper |
| 1 medium bell pepper | Worcestershire Sauce |
| 2 cups instant rice | water. |
| 1 stalk of celery | |

Peel the eggplant and cut it into small cubes, chop up the onion, bell pepper and celery. Preheat a big deep skillet and add the olive oil, sauté the onion, pepper and celery until the onions are translucent (tender) and the bell pepper is soft. Add in the rest of the ingredients except for the seasonings, blending them together in enough water to slightly cover the ingredients. Slowly simmer on a low fire until the eggplant breaks up forming a gravy with the water and the ground turkey is thoroughly cooked. Stir and add water as required while cooking to keep from burning and to break up the turkey. Towards the end of cooking you will see the water getting thicker as the eggplant cooks down. Add water or let water cook out until the gravy thickness and amount is to your liking.

At this point taste the meat and gravy. Add salt, pepper and Worcestershire Sauce to taste. If a light brown gravy is desired add Kitchen Bouquet just before the mixture is finished cooking. Make 2 cups of rice.

Presentation.....

Serve turkey with the egg plant gravy over a bed of hot rice on a large serving platter. Around the bed of rice you can add eye appeal by adding a border of small sweet peas or any kind of small green vegetables.

Send your favorite recipe to:
Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscmm@fcc.gov. Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245